

AGENDA



Thursday, March 6, 2008

**Austin Energy
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

Item No. 2

Subject: Approve an ordinance authorizing acceptance of \$12,500 in grant funds from the U.S. Department of Energy through Energy Research and Development Solutions, LLC; and amend the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Austin Energy Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20070910-003 to appropriate \$12,500 for a total grant amount of \$22,500 for the City's continued involvement in the Central Texas Clean Cities Program.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from the U.S. Department of Energy through Energy Research and Development Solutions, LLC. No match is required.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Fred Blood, Air Quality Manager, 482-5340.

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission.

Prior Council Action: 4/14/94 – Council Resolution established COA as a member of a regional Clean Cities program; 2/15/01 – Authorized acceptance of \$50,000 grant to establish the Central Texas Clean Cities Program; 7/11/02 – Accepted \$25,000 grant to continue the program; 9/26/02 – Authorized appropriation of \$14,000 in program income for "Advancing the Choice" events; 01/30/03 – Authorized acceptance of a \$25,000 grant and appropriated program income of \$10,000; 07/31/03 – Authorized acceptance of a \$40,000 grant; 11/04/04 – Authorized acceptance of a \$17,500 grant and appropriated program income of \$20,000; 4/28/05 – Authorized acceptance of a \$20,000 grant; 01/12/06 – Authorized acceptance of a \$23,500 grant; 12/13/07 – Authorized budget amendment accepting and appropriating program income of \$40,000 for administration costs.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) created the Clean Cities program in an effort to create local public/private partnerships to promote the use and purchase of alternative fuels by increasing public awareness. At the request of the DOE and the State of Texas Energy Conservation Office (SECO), the City of Austin is the administrator and fiduciary agent for the Central Texas Clean Cities Program.

In addition to increasing public awareness, the City is responsible for recruiting stakeholders for the Central Texas Clean Cities Coalition from the federal government, local governments and the private sector. The United States has 90 Clean Cities coalitions, six of which are in Texas. The Central Texas Clean Cities (CTCC) coalition includes Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis, and Williamson Counties and Ft. Hood in Killeen Texas.

This program income will be used to continue to fund the Clean Cities program. Approval of this budget amendment does not obligate or prohibit the City from funding the program in future years.